Claim Status:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

What is claimed is:

1. (Previously Presented) An object holding tool for holding objects, comprising a gripping unit which is operable between a contracted configuration and an expanded configuration to grip and release objects in transporting the same, wherein the gripping unit defines a first, outwardly-facing gripping surface which, with the gripping unit in an expanded configuration, acts to grip an inner peripheral surface of an object of one kind, and a second, inwardly-facing gripping surface which, with the gripping unit in a contracted configuration, acts to grip an outer peripheral surface of an object of another kind.

2. (Original) The holding tool of claim 1, further comprising an actuation mechanism for actuating the gripping unit between the contracted and expanded configurations.

3. (Previously Presented) The holding tool of claim 2, wherein the actuation mechanism comprises a biasing element for biasing the gripping unit to one of a contracted or expanded configuration and a drive unit which is operable to overcome the bias of the biasing element to drive the gripping unit to the other of the contracted or expanded configuration.

4. (Previously Presented) The holding tool of claim 3, wherein the biasing element biases the gripping unit to a contracted configuration and the drive unit is operable to drive the gripping unit to an expanded configuration.

5. (Previously Presented) The holding tool of claim 3, wherein the biasing element comprises a resilient element.

6. (Previously Presented) The holding tool of claim 3, wherein the drive unit comprises a diaphragm.

7. (Previously Presented) The holding tool of claim 1, wherein the gripping unit comprises a plurality of gripping jaws.

8. (Previously Presented) The holding tool of claim 1, wherein the first surface is of a first diameter and the second surface is of a second diameter greater than the first diameter.

9.-12. (Canceled)